

EBA MALAYSIA'S FIELDWORK

ORANG ASLI SOCIO-ECONOMICS



Orang Asli – who are they?

- OA are the native or aboriginal or “original people” of Peninsular Malaysia
- A *minority* group in the context of Malaysia multiracial population
- They have unique :
 - Custom
 - Language & Culture
 - Belief, etc.

(Malay) + Chine(s)e + Ind(ian) = Malaysian =



Three ethnic groups:

1. Negrito (3%)

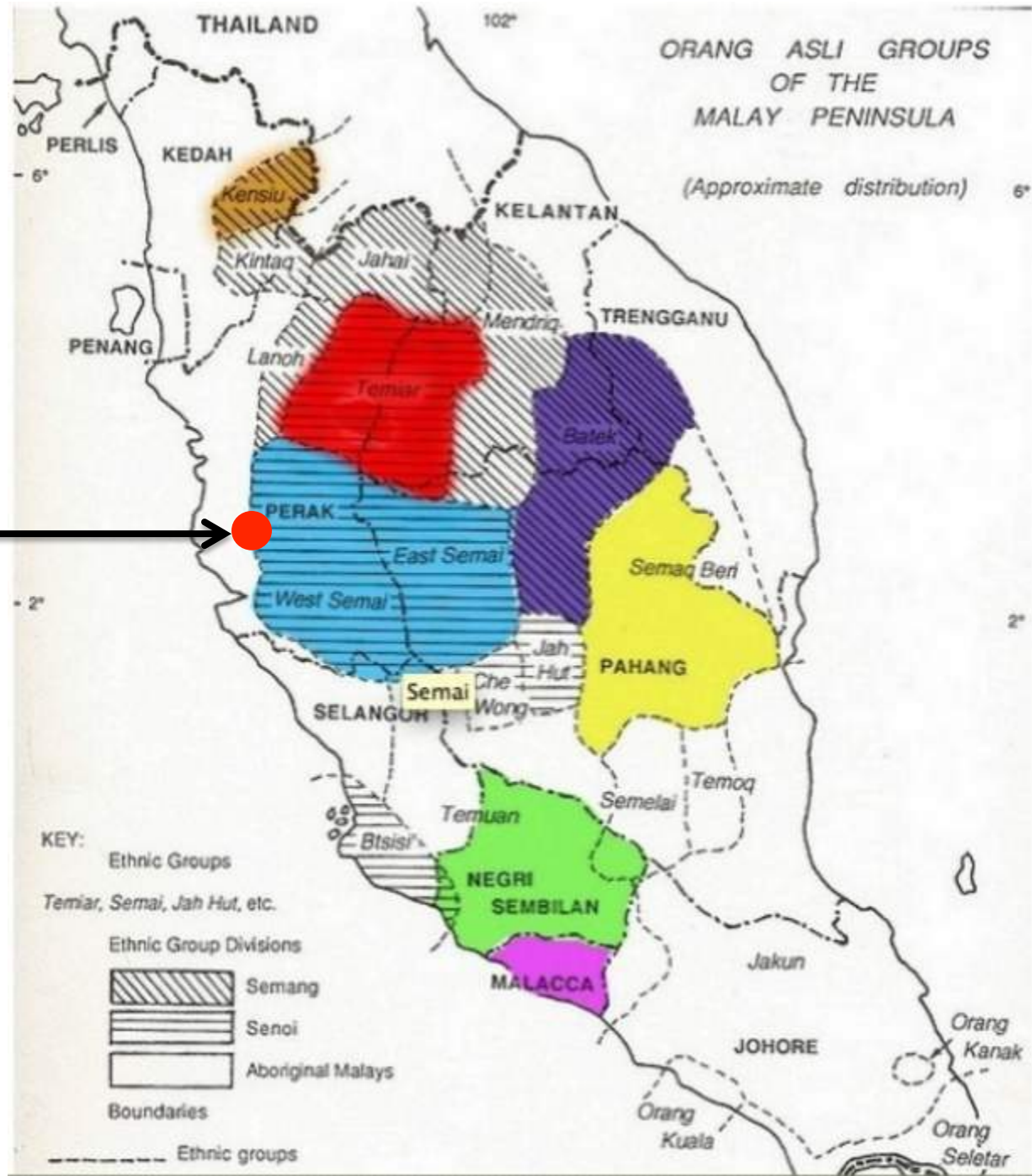
- Kensiu
- Kintaq
- Lanoh
- Jahai
- Mendriq
- Bateq

2. Senoi (55%)

- Temiar
- Semai
- Jahut
- Che Wong
- Semoq Beri
- Mah Meri

3. Proto Malay (42%)

- Temuan
- Semelai
- Jakun
- Selatar
- Kanaq
- Kuala





NG
MASLI
LANDS

km

km

km

km

km

km

km

km

km

km

10km



SELINJAT DITANGGUNG DE
KAWANGLAN DAN
REKORAN RUSA BAHAN

shary Mach (p)

shary Mach (p)



Pendidikan Orang Asli
Pendidikan untuk para Etnis Asli (Orang Asli) merupakan topik yang menarik dan penting.

7 KAWAN-KAWAN ORANG BUKU MELAYU

MAJLIS BANGSA ORANG BUKU MELAYU
Majlis Kebangsaan Orang Asli (MKAO) Kuala Lumpur

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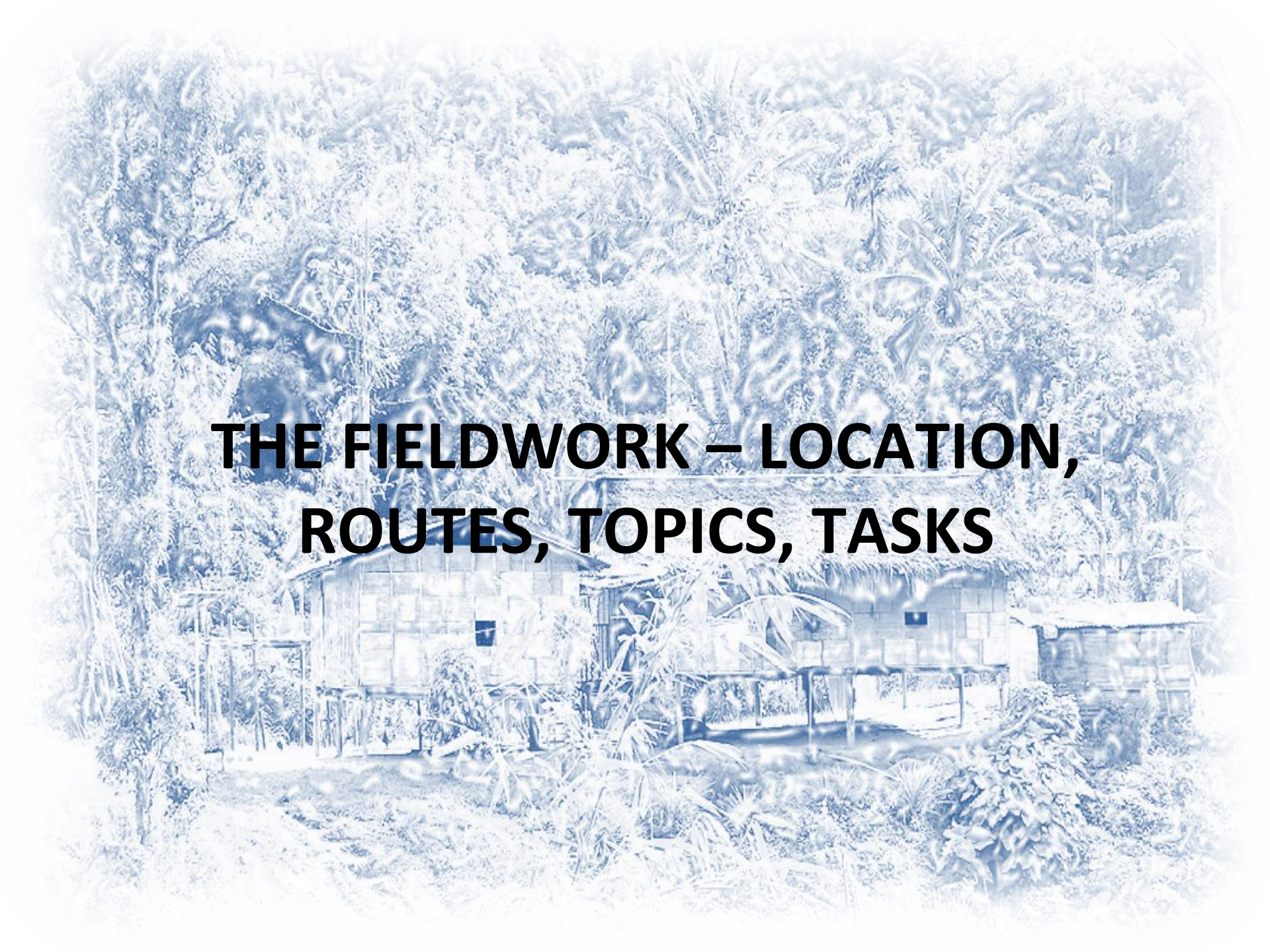
Melahirkan, Kita
Melahirkan, Kita
Melahirkan, Kita

A Quick Look at the Orang Asli History

- 18th & 19th Century – The period of slavery ('non-humans', 'savages' and 'jungle-beasts')
- Protection Era (1930s – 1940s) – British colonial views OA should remain in isolation from the rest of the Malayan population, and be given protection.
- Emergency Era (1948 – 1960) -- communist insurgents, Senoi Praaq, WW2, and the drive toward Independence Malaya
- Post Independence (1960 onward) – modernization, socio-economic development

Issues & Challenges of OA Community

- Anything related to OA affairs and lives :
 - Neglected segments of societies, lack of political representation and participation, economic marginalization and poverty, lack of access to social services and discrimination
 - Poverty (in Capitalist term), Education (in Formal term), Land/Territory (Ancestor), ... etc.



**THE FIELDWORK – LOCATION,
ROUTES, TOPICS, TASKS**

Penang – OA Tangkai Cermin Village



YOUR ROUTE ON 29TH August 2016

University of Science, Malaysia

Parit Buntar

Bagan Serai

Lenggong



Earliest Collection
& Recorded Artifacts
Of OA



CSR - Pusat Kecemerlangan Pendidikan Orang Asli Perak



Ladang Koperasi
Cermin Fasa 2





Sungai Tumboh

CHANGKAT
PETALING

KAMPUNG
PETALING

OATC Village

A15

UiTM

A15

KAMPUNG
MAKMUR

A15

OA Tangkai Cermin Community

- OA from Senoi Ethnic Group – Semai Tribe
- Small Village with a total population about 400+
- Located about 50 km from Ipoh, connected to main road A15 by tar/bitumen road ~ 3 km
- Rural settlement with basic infra-structures/ facilities like electricity, treated water supply, i.e. “modern” outlooks in comparison to remote OA settlement

Fieldwork Scope

- Participants will be exposed to 5 situations or local issues
- For each issue, participants are required to :
 - Quickly contextualize the issue via interaction with the local community or seeking & reading relevant supporting materials [Data Collection]
 - Come up with the proposed “solutions” (idea, action plan, etc.) to the issue [Analysis & Synthesis]
 - Present the “initial” findings on the 2nd Day of fieldwork (tentatively 30/8) [Communicate]
 - Prepare a paperwork or report [Publish]

Group Division

- Five groups will be formed, which take into account – gender, area/discipline of study, level/year
- A mentor (academic staff) will be assigned for each group – will acts as translator/facilitator
- For each issue, two local experts will acts as points of reference, they will accompany and assist each group to the site visit, interact with selected interviewees as well as providing background information or context of the issues

Logistics

- Each group (including its mentor and the two local experts) will visit pre-identified site(s) within the village – to observe and interact with the selected local community
- Depending on the issue(s), the visit's site(s) may be within a walking distance to the point of assembly or they may take 20 – 30 minutes travelling time, in which case some forms of transportation will be arranged accordingly

Some Tips

- Ideally, we expect participants to explore and experience the data collection process “impromptu”
- To facilitate the data collection process, we’ve pre-selected your subjects and places to interact with or to visit
- Each group should have already identified the type of data to be collected, and hence ready with a set of “instruments” e.g. list of questions, recording devices, etc.
- Semai community is well known for their “shyness”, you have to be more pro-active in approaching your subjects, be creative in “seizing the situation”, so social & communication skill is crucial to get your data

TOPIC 1 - EDUCATION



Topic 1 : Education

- OATC community current education achievement is among the lowest in OA community. This is sad considering the following facts :
 - Access to modern schools, inter-race mixed school, reasonably good infra/info-structures
 - Have in the past (in 70's and 80's) “groomed” many academically “successful” individuals
- Issues likely contributing toward this sorry state of academic achievement are :
 - School's dropout esp. on transition from lower to upper form
 - Parent's Awareness on the importance of education
 - Attitudes (may relate to culture) toward education

Education : Your Tasks

- Either to pick one of the identified issues or come up with a different issue impeding the education progress of OATC community
- To collect relevant data in order to answer or provide reasonable explanation whether the issue was real hindering factor or just a perception or symptom of other core issues
- To come up with a propose solution (if applicable) on how to address such issue – this require analyzing & synthesizing your findings
- To present your initial findings to the local community in the laymen term

Education : Your Subjects

- Parents (who have school going children) ~ 10 - 20 subjects
- Students (in different cohorts – primary & secondary) ~ 30 – 40 subjects
- May involve visit to subject's home to observe and learn “after school” support environment/system
- Scheduled session with parents who against the odd managed to nurture academically successful children
- Meeting/discussion with village administrative committee in charge of education affair
- Meeting/discussion with JKOA's representative



TOPIC 2 – LOCAL KNOWLEDGE & HERITAGE PRESERVATION

Topic 2 : Local Knowledge & Heritage Preservation

- OATC community have a rich sets of customs, culture, craft works and traditional knowledge, which they inherited from the generations before them.
- Modernity is inevitable, current OATC community in particular the younger ones have lost touch with these unique “heritage”, while those that survived till these days, were only “symbolically” practiced – with little meanings & values.
- Below is a list OATC heritage :
 - Genggulang (New Year Celebration)
 - Wedding & Funeral Customs
 - Traditional Knowledge (forklores, medicine, taboos, etc.)

Heritage : Your Tasks

- To identify a number of unique OATC customs, heritage, culture, local knowledge, crafts, etc.
- To understand the values of these “heritage” to OATC community i.e. are they still relevant in today modern settings?
- To identify the challenges and the problems that threatening the “existence” of these heritage
- To seek potential alternatives/opportunities or possible “solutions” in preserving these heritage
- To present your initial findings to the local community in the laymen term

Heritage : Your Subjects

- Three focus area : Culture, Custom & Local Knowledge
- Culture :
 - Ways of life e.g. Gotong Royong; community vs individual
 - Celebration e.g. Genggulang
 - Social Status/Hierarchy e.g. gelaran, adab panggilan, etc.
- Custom :
 - Taboo (do and don't) e.g. Pantang Larang; set of belief
 - Marriage custom (its system and process)
 - Funeral custom
- Local Knowledge :
 - Traditional medicine e.g. bomoh, plants, etc.
 - Traditional hunting equipment e.g. snares, traps, fish net

TOPIC 3 - ENTREPRENEURSHIP



Topic 3 : Entrepreneurship

- A “recent” concept to the OATC community, which demand a paradigm shift from subsistence-based economy to for profit capitalist economy
- Inevitable, the community has to adopt and adept to this business oriented realities as they have painfully experienced via the loss of their hunting/fishing grounds, land “rights”, jobs, etc.
- There were several positive evidence to suggest that OATC community is making progress on this endeavour
 - OATC Cooperative
 - Grocery Stores
 - Participation in “A Day Market”

Entrepreneurship : Your Tasks

- To work with identified “entrepreneurs” to understand their business, their challenges and problems, opportunities, etc.
- To look for potential openings of new and innovative “business” based on the talents, skills set, workmanship, surroundings, etc. within the OATC community
- To add values, alternatives and creative inputs into the existing “business” practices
- To propose marketing strategy, branding, promotion, in order to increase exposure of the local products
- To present your initial findings to the local community in the laymen term

Entrepreneurship : Your Subjects

- Village Cooperative :
 - Koperasi Penduduk Tangkai Cermin Kinta Berhad (KPTCKB)
 - Manage TSK 1 & 2 Palm Oil Plantations; land banks
- Grocery Store :
 - Ms. Alang d/o Kana (family business)
 - Sell groceries for daily necessities
- Local Talents (crafts) :
 - Mr. Pandak Basri & Team : Painting
 - Ms. Ngah Dodi : Stitching & Sewing (modern)
 - Fisherman Team : Fish Traps



TOPIC 4 – SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT

Topic 4 : Sustainable Environment

- For generations OATC community have live “sustainably” with their surroundings i.e. they have great respect for their natural world
- Today such “surroundings” are things in the past, will they have the same respect to the new surroundings or are they contributing to its degradation?
- Different perspectives of “sustainable” environment can be highlighted (in the context of OATC) :
 - Ways of life e.g. waste management
 - Endangered Species (plants & animal) awareness
 - Vermin or pests breeding grounds due to unsustainable environment

Sustainable Environment : Your Tasks

- To identify environmentally friendly practices closely observed by OATC that contribute toward sustainable environment
- Or the opposite practices that contribute to the rapid degradation of the environment
- To understand how the OATC community source for food, medicinal plants or raw materials for their traditional craft making
- To understand OATC community awareness on the importance of “sustainable” environment
- To present your initial findings to the local community in the laymen term

Sustainable Environment : Your Subjects

- **Solid Waste Management :**
 - Visiting selected local community homes
 - Interacts with the occupants of the premise
- **Endangered Species Hunters (Animal) :**
 - Lucrative endeavour to hunt for “priced” animal that are close to extinction
 - A session with them : perception, challenges, etc.
- **Medicinal Plants & Traditional Crafts :**
 - A session with traditional healers and craftsmen
 - Understanding their challenges and their view on the survival of these traditions

TOPIC 5 – ICT CONNECTIVITY



Topic 5 : ICT Connectivity

- ICT is the leveler, its enables anyone to do “business” globally efficiently (so they say)
- In Malaysia, more public (and private) services are going online, which means OATC community has to be “connected” or left behind
- Good internet connectivity means a lot
 - For students ... online educational resources
 - For youths ... finding jobs
 - For parents ... health, education, etc.
 - For JKKK ... dealing with GOV agencies (like JKOA)
 - For Village Cooperative ... marketing, branding

ICT Connectivity : Your Tasks

- To get a general ICT landscape of the OATC community e.g. ownership of ICT enable devices, usage, etc.
- To list and priorities the “wish list” of ICT application among OATC community
- To do a quick survey on mobile data signal coverage in the OATC village
- To propose OATC Internet Center that provide internet connectivity for the village
- To present your initial findings to the local community in the laymen term

ICT Connectivity : Your Subjects

- Selected few local households :
 - Gather data related to ICT's devices ownership & usage
 - Parents, Students, Youths
- Site visit to at least 4 – 5 locations :
 - To measure mobile data signal level or strengths
 - To come up with mobile data signal coverage map
- Equipment needed :
 - Typical mobile phone (Android or IOS)
 - Mobile Network/Data Services (local mobile providers)
 - Built-ins “Field Test Mode” function in mobile phone
 - You're going to measure the “bars” in decibel indicating mobile network signal strength



**ABOR HAKNUK
TERIMA KASIH
THANK YOU**